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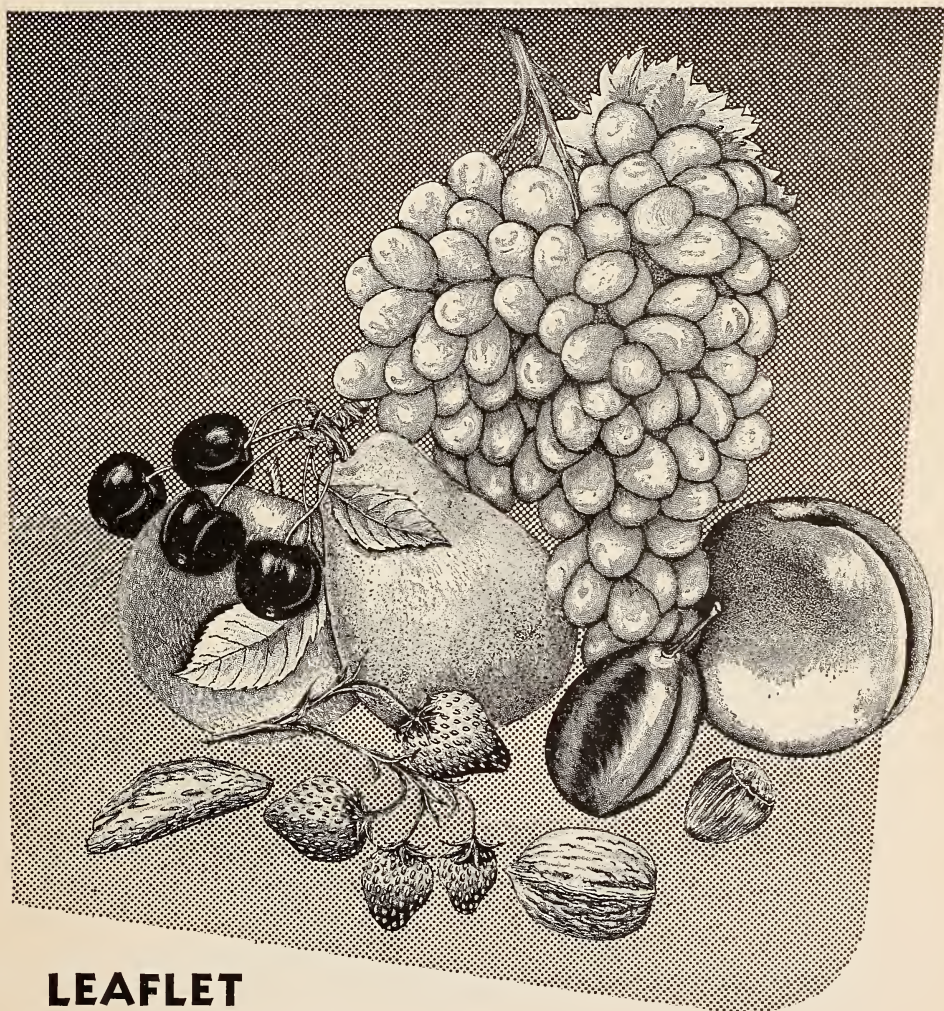
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# The Home FRUIT GARDEN

in the  
Pacific Coast States and  
Arizona



**LEAFLET**  
**No. 224**

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

# THE HOME FRUIT GARDEN IN THE PACIFIC COAST STATES AND ARIZONA<sup>1</sup>

In almost every part of the country certain fruits can be grown successfully in farm or suburban fruit gardens. Fruits that need spraying are not well suited for home production. By properly selecting the kinds and varieties of fruit for home planting, a succession of fresh fruit of high-dessert quality can be available during much of the year. Surpluses can be canned, preserved, dried, or frozen.

## Climatic Districts for Fruits

Summer and winter temperatures, rainfall, and prevalence of diseases and insects are all important in determining the varieties that can be grown in the different parts of the country. Although many fruits are not hardy in parts of this region, some kinds can be grown in almost every home garden. On the map (fig. 1) the States are divided into districts based chiefly on the length of the growing season. In general, the same varieties can be grown throughout the district.

## Kinds and Varieties to Plant

Under most conditions in this region the best fruits and nuts for the home garden are (1) grapes, (2) strawberries, (3) Young or Boysen trailing blackberries, (4) red raspberries, (5) filberts, (6) Persian (English) walnuts, (7) almonds, (8) plums and prunes, (9) cherries, (10) pears, (11) peaches, (12) apricots, and (13) apples. In some locations in California other fruits, including figs, olives, avocados, and citrus fruits, can be grown. In most parts of this region fruit plants are free from many diseases and some insects that attack unsprayed trees in the more humid regions. In districts where the codling moth, various species of mites, and pear psylla are serious pests, apple and pear trees in home gardens require spraying for the control of these pests. In almost every district, however, certain fruits can be grown that do not require spraying.

The varieties recommended for medium-sized gardens in the different districts are given in table 1. Usually more than one variety is listed in order to cover a long season.

In western Oregon the bunch (American) grapes and in California the European grapes are well adapted to the home garden.

Strawberries are also well suited to gardens in this region, and are the first fruit to ripen. The everbearing strawberries, Twentieth Century and Gem, can be grown in eastern Oregon and Washington where the season is short. Other varieties can be grown in other districts.

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<sup>1</sup> Prepared by the Crops Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, with the collaboration of horticulturists of the States of the region. The varieties suggested herein are based on those recommended by these horticulturists.



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FIGURE 1.—Map of the Pacific Coast States and Arizona. District 1—high mountainous parts of Washington, Oregon, and California, which in general are not suited for fruit growing. District 2—mountain slopes and elevated areas having a growing season of 90 to 150 days; only especially hardy and, in some parts, drought-resistant varieties can be grown. District 3—western and river-valley areas of Washington and Oregon, foothill slopes in California, and parts of Arizona having a growing season of 150 to 240 days, where a large variety of fruits and nuts can be grown; irrigation required east of the Cascade Mountains in Washington and Oregon, in southeastern California, and in Mohave, Yavapai, Gila, and Graham Counties, Ariz. District 3a—rather narrow coastal strip of Washington, Oregon, and northern California having the same length of growing season as district 3, but summer temperatures too low for the best growth of many fruits. District 4—northern and central river valleys and coastal areas of California having a growing season of more than 240 days; in the interior valleys high summer temperatures prevail, and many fruits and nuts can be grown under irrigation. District 5—arid parts of southern California and Arizona having a growing season of more than 240 days and high summer temperatures, where many fruit varieties can be grown successfully under irrigation.

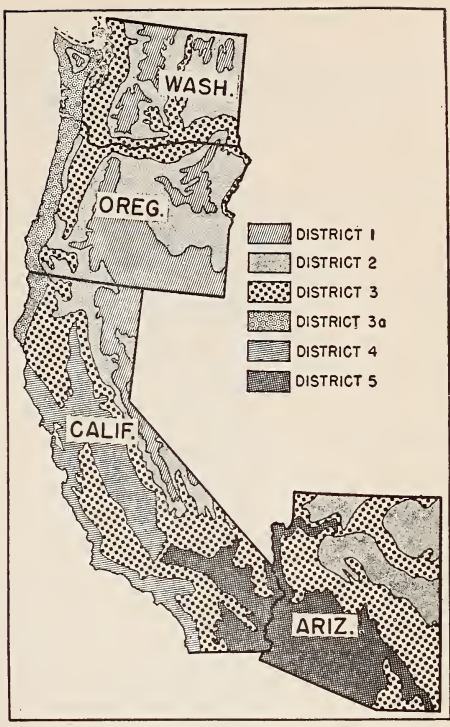


TABLE 1.—Varieties suggested for medium-sized gardens in representative parts of the districts of figure 1

DISTRICT 1 (HIGH MOUNTAINOUS AREAS OF WASHINGTON, OREGON, AND EASTERN CALIFORNIA. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS IN GENERAL TOO SEVERE FOR THE GROWING OF FRUITS. IN ESPECIALLY FAVORABLE LOCATIONS SOME VARIETIES LISTED FOR DISTRICT 2 MAY BE TRIED)

DISTRICT 2 (MOUNTAINOUS SLOPES AND ELEVATED AREAS HAVING A GROWING SEASON OF 90 TO 150 DAYS, WHERE CLIMATIC CONDITIONS ARE UNFAVORABLE FOR THE GROWING OF OTHER THAN ESPECIALLY HARDY AND, IN SOME PARTS, DROUGHT-RESISTANT VARIETIES)

Fruit or nut <sup>1</sup>	Variety	Month ripe	Plants	Length of row or spacing
			Number	Feet
Strawberry	(Twentieth Century	June–October	100	150
	(Gem	do	100	150
Raspberry	(Newburgh	July	50	125
	(Latham	do	50	125
Sour cherry	(September	July–October	50	125
	Montmorency	July	1	20
Plum	Italian Prune	September	1	20
Apple	(Yellow Transparent	July	1	30
	(Gravenstein	September	1	30

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 1.—*Varieties suggested for medium-sized gardens in representative parts of the districts of figure 1—Continued*

DISTRICT 3 (WESTERN AND RIVER-VALLEY AREAS OF WASHINGTON AND OREGON, THE FOOTHILL SLOPES OF CALIFORNIA AND PORTIONS OF ARIZONA, WHERE THE GROWING SEASON VARIES FROM 150 TO 240 DAYS AND CLIMATIC CONDITIONS FAVOR THE GROWING OF A CONSIDERABLE RANGE OF FRUIT AND NUT VARIETIES)

Fruit or nut <sup>1</sup>	Variety	Month ripe	Plants	
			Number	Feet
Grape.....	Delaware.....	August-September.....	2	16
	Campbell Early.....	September.....	2	16
	Niagara.....	do.....	2	16
	Concord.....	do.....	4	32
Strawberry.....	Hood.....	May-June.....	100	150
	Northwest <sup>2</sup> .....	do.....	100	150
	Siletz.....	do.....	100	150
	Twentieth Century.....	July-November.....	100	150
Blackberry (trailing).....	Boysen.....	June-July.....	15	120
	Logan.....	do.....	10	80
	Marion.....	July.....	15	120
	Chehalem.....	do.....	15	120
Raspberry.....	Cascade.....	June-July.....	15	120
	Sumner.....	June-August.....	20	50
Gooseberry <sup>2,3</sup> .....	Willamette.....	do.....	20	50
	Oregon.....	June.....	5	20
Currant <sup>2,3</sup> .....	Red Lake.....	do.....	5	20
	Perfection.....	do.....	5	20
Blueberry <sup>2</sup> .....	Earliblue.....	July.....	3	15
	Bluecrop.....	July-August.....	3	15
	Berkeley.....	do.....	3	15
	Herbert.....	do.....	3	15
	Jersey.....	do.....	3	15
Japanese plum.....	Burmosa.....	July.....	2	40
	Santa Rosa.....	August.....	2	30
European plum.....	Italian Prune.....	August-September.....	2	40
	Montmorency.....	June.....	1	20
Sour cherry.....	Napoleon.....	do.....	1	30
	Bing.....	do.....	1	30
Sweet cherry.....	Lambert.....	June-July.....	1	30
	Yellow Transparent.....	July.....	1	30
	Gravenstein.....	September.....	1	30
	Jonathan.....	do.....	1	30
Apple.....	Yellow Newtown.....	October.....	1	30
	Bartlett.....	August <sup>4</sup> .....	1	20
	Anjou.....	September <sup>4</sup> .....	1	20
Pear.....	Winter Nelis.....	October <sup>4</sup> .....	1	20
	Blenheim <sup>5</sup> .....	July.....	1	20
Apricot.....	Redhaven.....	August.....	2	40
	Redglobe <sup>6</sup> .....	do.....	2	40
Persian walnut.....	Franquette.....	October.....	2	100
	Barcelona.....	September-October.....	2	30
Filbert.....	Du Chilly.....	do.....	2	30

DISTRICT 3A (COASTAL AREAS OF WASHINGTON, OREGON, AND NORTHERN CALIFORNIA. WARMEST AVAILABLE LOCATIONS, SUCH AS SOUTH AND EAST SLOPES, SHOULD BE SELECTED)

Fruit or nut <sup>1</sup>	Variety	Month ripe	Plants	
			Number	Feet
Strawberry.....	Siletz.....	May-June.....	100	150
	Northwest.....	do.....	100	150
	Twentieth Century.....	July-November.....	100	150
	Boysen.....	June-July.....	15	120
Blackberry (trailing).....	Thornless Evergreen.....	August-September.....	10	120
	Marion.....	July.....	10	80
	Logan.....	do.....	10	80
	Fairview.....	June-July.....	20	50
Raspberry.....	Canby.....	do.....	20	50
	Sumner.....	do.....	20	50
	Willamette.....	do.....	20	50
	Earliblue.....	July-August.....	3	15
Blueberry.....	Bluecrop.....	do.....	3	15
	Berkeley.....	do.....	3	15
	Jersey.....	do.....	3	15
	Redhaven.....	August.....	1	20
Peach.....	Montmorency.....	June.....	1	20
	Yellow Transparent.....	July.....	1	30
Apple.....	Gravenstein.....	September.....	1	30
	Delicious.....	October.....	1	30
	Clapp Favorite.....	August <sup>4</sup> .....	1	20
Pear.....	Bartlett.....	do <sup>4</sup> .....	1	20
	Oregon.....	June.....	5	20
Gooseberry <sup>3</sup> .....	Perfection.....	do.....	5	20
	Barcelona.....	September-October.....	2	30
Filbert.....	Du Chilly.....	do.....	2	30

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 1.—*Varieties suggested for medium-sized gardens in representative parts of the districts of figure 1—Continued*

DISTRICT 4 (NORTHERN AND CENTRAL RIVER VALLEYS AND COASTAL AREAS OF CALIFORNIA HAVING A GROWING SEASON OF MORE THAN 240 DAYS; HIGH SUMMER TEMPERATURES IN THE INTERIOR VALLEYS)

Fruit or nut <sup>1</sup>	Variety	Month ripe	Plants	Length of row or spacing
			Number	Feet
European grape	{ Black Rose	August–September	2	16
	{ Cardinal	do	2	16
	{ Muscat of Alexandria	September	2	16
	{ Emperor	September–October	2	16
Blackberry (trailing)	{ Young	June	10	80
	{ Boysen	June–July	10	80
	{ Ollalie	July	10	80
	{ Shasta	April–November	25	50
Strawberry	{ Tioga	May–November	25	50
Raspberry <sup>7</sup>	{ Washington	June	20	50
	{ Willamette	do	20	50
	{ Burmosa	do	1	20
Japanese plum	{ Santa Rosa	June–July	1	20
	{ Nubiana	August	1	20
	{ Agen (French)	August–September	1	20
Prune	{ Giant	August	1	20
	{ Bing	May–June	1	20
	{ Napoleon	do	1	20
Sweet cherry	{ Lambert	June	1	20
	{ Regina	do	1	20
	{ Redtop	Mid-July	1	20
	{ Suncrest	August	1	20
Peach	{ Rio Oso Gem (for higher elevations)	do	1	20
	{ Bartlett	July–August <sup>4</sup>	1	20
	{ Dawn	do	1	20
	{ Winter Nelis	October <sup>4</sup>	1	20
Apricot	{ Royal	June–July	1	25
Apple	{ Valmore	August	1	20
	{ Beverly Hills	September	1	20
Olive	{ Mission	November–December	1	20
	{ Manzanillo	do	1	20
Fig	{ Mission	June–August	1	30
	{ Kadota	September	1	30
Guava	{ Strawberry	September–November	1	10
Persimmon	{ Hachiya	October–December	1	15
	{ Fuyu	do	1	15
Loquat	{ Champagne	May–June	1	15
Orange <sup>8</sup>	{ Washington Navel	December–April	1	20
Lemon <sup>8</sup>	{ Eureka	January–December	1	20
	{ Meyer	do	1	20
Grapefruit <sup>8</sup>	{ Marsh	December–May	1	20
Tangerine <sup>8</sup>	{ Satsuma	December–February	1	20
Avacado <sup>8</sup>	{ Fuerte	September–October	1	30
	{ Zutano	do	1	30
Jujube	{ Lang	October–November	1	20
	{ Li	do	1	20
Feijoa	{ Coolidge	September–October	1	20
	{ Superba	do	1	20
Almond	{ Ne Plus Ultra	August	1	25
	{ Nonpareil	August–September	1	25
Persian walnut	{ Franquette	September–October	1	50
	{ Payne	do	1	40

See footnotes at end of table.



TABLE 1.—*Varieties suggested for medium-sized gardens in representative parts of the districts of figure 1—Continued*

DISTRICT 5 (ARID PARTS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AND ARIZONA HAVING A GROWING SEASON OF MORE THAN 240 DAYS AND HIGH SUMMER TEMPERATURES; IRRIGATION REQUIRED)

Fruit or nut <sup>1</sup>	Variety	Month ripe	Plants	Length of row or spacing
			<i>Number</i>	<i>Feet</i>
European grape	Thompson Seedless	July	2	16
	Cardinal	do	2	16
	Ribier	do	2	16
	Muscat of Alexandria	August	2	16
Strawberry	Fresno	December-April	50	100
Blackberry (trailing)	Young	June	10	80
	Ollalie	do	10	80
	Boysen	June-July	10	80
Japanese plum	Burmosa	June	1	20
	Santa Rosa	do	1	20
	Regina	June	1	20
Peach	Redtop	July	1	20
	Suncrest	August	1	20
	Summerset	September	1	20
Apricot	Royal	June	1	25
Fig	Mission	May-October	1	30
	Kadota	do	1	20
	Washington Navel	November-January	1	20
Orange <sup>2</sup>	Satsuma	December-February	1	20
	Valencia	February-May	1	20
	Eureka	September-April	1	20
Lemon <sup>3</sup>	Marsh	October-July	1	20
Grapefruit <sup>4</sup>	Mission	November-February	1	20
	Khadravy	September	1	30
	Halawy	October	1	30
Date <sup>5</sup>	Deglet Noor	November	1	30
Almond	Jordonalo	August	1	25
	Nonpareil	August-September	1	25

<sup>1</sup> 2 or more varieties of apples, pears, sweet cherries, Japanese plums, blueberries, filberts, and almonds should be planted to insure cross-pollination. A few cherry varieties such as Bing, Lambert, and Napoleon, will not pollinate each other; varieties such as Van, Republican, or Chinook provide suitable pollen.

<sup>2</sup> Oregon and Washington only.

<sup>3</sup> Plant only where quarantine regulations permit.

<sup>4</sup> The dates apply to picking maturity.

<sup>5</sup> In Oregon and Washington use Wenatchee variety.

<sup>6</sup> Select Early Elberta or Redskin if canning peach is desired.

<sup>7</sup> Near coast only.

<sup>8</sup> In central California plant only if a warm, protected site is available.

<sup>9</sup> Plant only in locations where severe freezing in winter does not occur.

The Persian walnut and the sweet cherry are widely used as shade trees about the home, especially in western Oregon and California.

Peaches, plums, prunes, apricots, and almonds produce abundantly under irrigation in the warm interior valleys of California and all but almonds in favorable locations in Oregon and Washington. A few trees will supply ample quantities for home use. Most of the stone fruits, apples, and pears are not well adapted to locations in southern California and Arizona, where winters are relatively warm. Apples do well in Washington and Oregon and in the cooler parts of north-western California and along the foothills, but not in the river valleys of central or southern California.

## Planting and Care

SOURCES OF PLANTS.—Fruits adapted to this region are propagated by commercial nurserymen. Names of nurseries can be supplied by the State agricultural extension services.

LOCATION OF PLANTING.—Although it is desirable to have the planting near the house and perhaps adjacent to the vegetable garden,



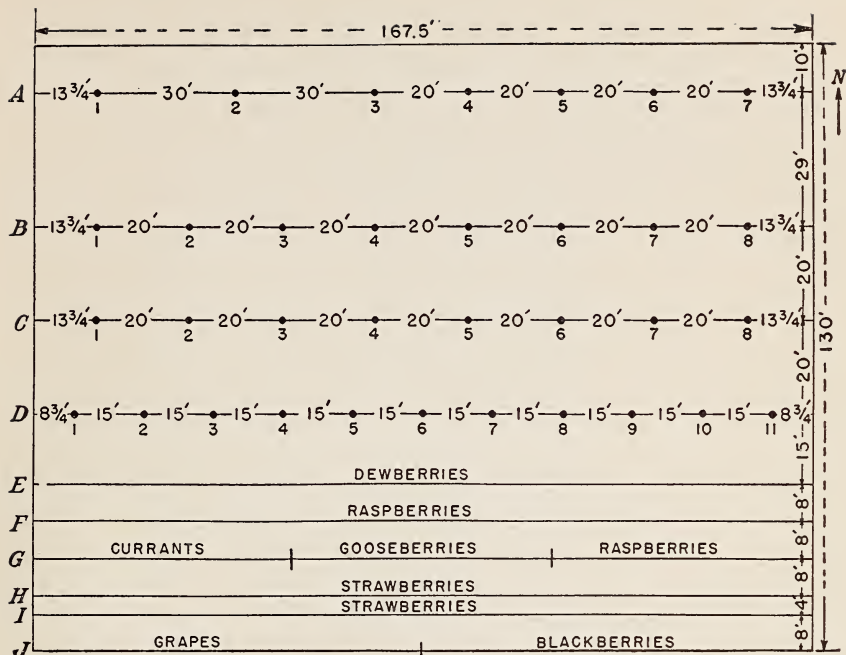


FIGURE 2.—Suggested arrangement for a half-acre fruit garden in western Oregon or western Washington. Row *A*—Nos. 1 to 3, apples; Nos. 4 to 7, pears. Row *B*—Nos. 1 to 4, cherries; Nos. 5 to 8, peaches. Row *C*—Nos. 1 to 6, plums; Nos. 7 and 8, apricots. Row *D*—filberts. Row *E*—half row each of Young and Boysen trailing blackberries (8 feet apart). Row *F*—Washington raspberry (56 plants, 3 feet apart). Row *G*—one-third row each of Perfection currant (4 feet apart), Oregon gooseberry (4 feet apart), and Willamette raspberry (2½ feet apart). Row *H*—Marshall strawberry (112 plants). Row *I*—Twentieth Century strawberry (112 plants). Row *J*—half a row each of grapes and Logan trailing blackberries (8 feet apart). Fruit trees should be placed on the north side, if possible, to avoid shading of small fruits.

this may not be the most favorable location. The planting should not be in a low or frosty area but on moderately elevated land or on a north or northeastern slope that will provide satisfactory air drainage.

**SIZE OF PLANTING.**—The size of the planting is determined by the available space, by the needs of the family, and by the kinds of fruit that can be grown. Most small fruit gardens (10 by 50 feet to 30 by 50 feet) should consist mostly of berries and grapes. A half-acre garden that includes tree fruits and nuts will furnish fruit in season for a large family (fig. 2).

**WHEN TO PLANT.**—In western Oregon, western Washington, California, and Arizona plant trees in late fall; in eastern Oregon and Washington plant as early in the spring as it is possible to prepare the soil. It is important that the plants be entirely dormant.

**HOW TO PLANT.**—Prepare the ground as thoroughly as for a vegetable garden. Do not allow the roots to dry out. Set tree fruits and nuts slightly deeper than they grew in the nursery. Spread out the roots when the trees are set. Separate the topsoil and subsoil when digging the holes. Place the topsoil around the roots, and fill up the hole with the subsoil. Firm the soil about the roots to prevent

drying out and to help hold the tree in position. Set berry bushes and grapes at the same depth as they grew at the nursery. Set strawberry plants so that the crown is even with the surface of the ground.

**PRUNING BEFORE PLANTING.**—Pick off all fully developed leaves before planting strawberries. Cut back the canes of raspberries to 6 inches. Usually it is best to cut back grapevines to one or two buds. If fruit trees are unbranched whips, head them back to a height of 30 to 36 inches. If they have several good-sized branches well spaced along the trunk, leave three or four. The branches should be spaced about a foot apart along the trunk, should be wide angled, and should point in different directions.

**CULTIVATION.**—The cultivation of the home fruit garden is similar to that of the vegetable garden. Begin cultivation as soon as the ground is dry enough and continue as needed until September or October. Under most conditions the same methods of maintaining the fertility of the soil that are followed in a vegetable garden are successful with fruit. The liberal use of stable manure generally gives excellent results, but may inhibit zinc availability.

**IRRIGATION.**—Regular irrigation is necessary in most of this region, except in western Oregon and Washington. It is especially needed by the small fruits. Where winter rains have not filled the soil, irrigate in March, April, or June, and then at monthly intervals until September. On sandy soils the irrigations must be more frequent than on heavy soils.

**PRUNING AFTER THE FIRST YEAR.**—The purpose of pruning is to develop the tree or bush so that it will have maximum strength to carry a load of fruit and maximum bearing capacity. A safe rule in pruning trees, particularly trees up to bearing age, is to prune them as little as will accomplish this. Remove cross branches and suckers and cut out broken or dying limbs. In general, prune fruit trees during the dormant season, preferably in the spring after danger of severe winter freezing is past but before growth has started.

If the growth of grapevines is rather weak during the first season, cut the vine back at the end of the first growing season to one or two buds and train up a strong trunk during the second growing season. If the vine is to be trained to a two-wire trellis, tie it to a stake and carry it upright until it reaches the top wire. There, pinch it off and lead out two laterals, one in each direction, along the wire. During the second season lateral canes will grow from all the buds along the trunk. Select two of these at the height of the first wire above the ground and tie them to that wire to develop fruiting wood. Rub off the other branches along the trunk or pinch them back during the growing season. A vine can be trained to a fence in a similar manner.

Generally the vines, if properly cared for, will begin to bear fruit the third year after planting and should continue to produce a satisfactory crop for many years thereafter.

Prune while the vines are in a dormant condition. As fruit is borne on shoots from the canes of the previous season's growth, it is important that enough new wood be saved to provide for the next summer's crop. With healthy, vigorous vines, 50 to 60 buds will produce as much fruit as the vine can mature properly.